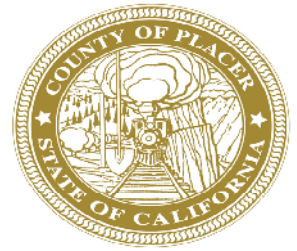




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EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

DEVON BELL
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Thursday, April 21, 2011
Date/Time of Occurrence: Sunday, April 17, 2011
Nature of Event: Two Reno Men Arrested in Home Depot Scam
Location of Call: Auburn, CA
Released by: Dena Erwin, PIO (530) 889-6901

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

The felony crime spree of two Reno drug addicts came to an end Sunday at Auburn's Home Depot when they were arrested by Placer County Sheriff's deputies on numerous charges.

Scott K. Nelson, 46, and C. Nicholas Psarras, 47, were booked at the Placer County Jail Sunday afternoon after loss prevention employees watched Nelson place his homemade UPC stickers over the store's UPC stickers on boxes in his cart. After ringing up his own purchases at the self-service register, Nelson exited the store and was confronted by employees. He fought with them before being handcuffed and taken back to the store. Nelson had paid \$97 for items valued at \$810.

Detective Jim Hudson found a small shipping operation inside the car, which contained dozens of boxes ready for shipment to his e-Bay customers, shipping scales, empty shipping boxes and packing tape and materials, two laptops and hundreds of UPC codes in binders. Investigators also found heroin, more than 200 oxycodone pills, morphine pills, syringes and other drug paraphernalia.

Additionally, Hudson found a paper trail connecting Nelson and Psarras to no less than 30 Home Depot burglaries all over the region. Both men were out on bail for a similar crime in another county.

Nelson and Psarras were booked on charges of burglary, receiving stolen property, committing a felony while on bail, possession of controlled substances for sale and fraudulent use of an access card of more than \$400. Both suspects were released from jail Wednesday on their own recognizance.



Scott K. Nelson



C. Nicholas Psarras